

1-24-95 Minutes

A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 7:30 p.m., January 24, 1995.

Members present: Mayor G. Michael Shelton; Councilwoman Joanne A. Grahame; Councilwoman Linda Kochendarfer; and Councilman Ronnie C. Rice.

Members absent: Vice Mayor Larry D. Brookshier, Councilman Payton M. Otey, and Councilman W. D. Tharp.

Staff present: City Manager Jack A. Gross; City Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher.

Mayor Shelton opened the meeting and led all present in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Shelton declared that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on January 10, 1995, were approved as distributed.

Mayor Shelton brought to Council's attention a letter from Governor George Allen regarding his proposal for the elimination of the Business, Professional, and Occupational License Tax (BPOL). Mayor Shelton stated that elimination of this tax would amount to approximately \$280,000 per year for the City of Bedford.

Mayor Shelton indicated that the legislation regarding the City/County consolidation has been assigned the House Bill number 1648.

Discussion ensued regarding other legislation which impacts the City.

The City Manager stated that Councilman Otey is still in the hospital and is in the intensive care unit.

Mayor Shelton indicated that Council's prayers and concerns are with Mr. Otey for a speedy recovery.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following item: appointment of Mr. Robert E. Miller to the Recreation Advisory Committee to fill an unexpired term which will expire June 30, 1997.

On motion by Councilman Rice, seconded by Councilwoman Grahame, voted upon and carried, the Consent Agenda was approved.

Mr. William S. Ludwig, Chairman of the City School Board; Mr. John Kent, School Superintendent; Mr. DeWitt House, Principal of Liberty High School; and members of Council discussed the following:

Bedford School System Standards of Quality - Six Year Plan.

"Youth Connections" efforts to provide alternative activities for area youths.

Liberty Block Schedule Report.

Weapons Awareness Program - Mr. Ludwig expressed thanks to the Police Department for this program.

Budget Process for the School Board - CIP items and use of a flow chart.

The Board's request for Council's approval of a time line and formation of a committee for a feasibility study for a new gymnasium for the Middle School.

Mayor Shelton indicated that he would take under advisement the appointment of such a committee. Mr. Ludwig and the Mayor are to meet regarding this item.

Mr. Alex L. Monroe, P.E., Olver, Inc., made a presentation regarding the pretreatment program to monitor and control the effluent from significant industrial dischargers which is required by the City's new Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Monroe reviewed the major components of the pretreatment program and the schedule for its implementation.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Jay Scudder, Director of Planning and Community Development, stated that the Bedford Master Gardeners have submitted a landscape plan for Independence Boulevard. Mr. Scudder indicated that representatives of the Virginia Department of Transportation and the City staff have reviewed the plan and have determined that it conforms to highway set back and planting standards.

Mrs. Carol McMillan, of Master Gardeners of Bedford, reviewed charts showing the landscaping plan.

Mr. Scudder stated that the Department of Planning and Community Development supports this plan and has submitted a CIP request for the 1995-96 year in the amount of \$22,845 to provide for the funding of this project. Mr. Scudder indicated that there is a possibility of the City receiving matching grants for this project.

On motion by Councilwoman Grahame, seconded by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, voted upon and carried, Council adopted the concept of the Independence Boulevard Landscaping Plan and referred it to the City Manager and staff for future consideration.

On motion by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, seconded by Councilwoman Grahame, voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote, Council adjourned into executive session pursuant to Section 2.1-344(a)(7) of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, for consultation with legal counsel and staff regarding possible litigation - Appalachian Power Company contract. Roll call vote follows:

Councilwoman Grahame	aye
Councilwoman Kochendarfer	aye
Councilman Otey	absent
Councilman Rice	aye

Councilman Tharp	absent
Vice Mayor Brookshier	absent
Mayor Shelton	aye

Council adjourned into executive session at 8:58 p.m. Non-council members attending were: City Manager Gross, City Attorney Berry, Assistant to the City Manager Thompson, Electric Utility Director Socha, and Clerk of the Council Hatcher.

Council reconvened into open session at 9:51 p.m. The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Bedford hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Council.

Councilwoman Kochendarfer moved that the resolution be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Grahame, voted upon, and carried by the following roll call vote:

Councilwoman Kochendarfer	aye
Councilman Otey	absent
Councilman Rice	aye
Councilman Tharp	absent
Vice Mayor Brookshier	absent
Councilwoman Grahame	aye
Mayor Shelton	aye

On motion by Councilman Rice, seconded by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, voted upon and carried, the following item was added to the agenda: Authorization for the City Manager to Notify Appalachian Power Company Regarding Power Reductions in the Electric Service Contract.

On motion by Councilman Rice, seconded by Councilwoman Kochendarfer, voted upon and carried, City Council authorized the City Manager to notify Appalachian Power Company that the City is reducing its contract capacity by six megawatts, effective February 1, 1996.

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 9:52 p.m.